

Monday Memo

January 25, 2010

Ethan, Chase and Finley relaxed in the reception room during break recently.



NOTES:

COOKIE SALE FOR HAITI: Thanks to everyone who made cookies, to those who bought cookies and to those that just donated to the cause. The fourth and fifth graders earned almost \$200 to send to Oxfam International to help people in Haiti recover and rebuild.

SKIING: We will be skiing this Friday, please remember that pick up is at the base lodge at 3:30. Teachers will not be responsible for chaperoning students after 3:45.

9th ANNUAL AUCTION: Procurement of donations is complete and we will be working on finalizing the catalogue this week so that it is available for preview and pre-registration next week. **Look forward to the following:** for **Mud Season** a mudroom makeover basket and Nick Piliero paintings; for **Spring** gardening services and a vehicle maintenance class for teens; for **Summer** handmade Adirondack chairs and a charter sailing trip for experienced sailors in Kittery, ME or Cotuit, MA; for **Fall** French cooking classes and a rolling backpack; for **Winter** Samii hand knit children's sweaters and outerwear from Village Sports. There are also numerous handmade local crafts and vacation stays in Cape Ann, Montreal and Martha's Vineyard.

Free baby-sitting for 2nd-5th graders will be provided by members of the 7th grade class at the Moore-Whitney house in East Burke the night of the auction. The first 10 families to get in touch with Maya Whitney (626-5903) and sign up will be welcome.

It's time to rope in everyone who has mentioned willingness to help (remember the sign up sheet at the brunch in September?!) with the auction. Check out the categories below and get in touch with the captains to offer assistance if you can.

Publicity: Posters and postcards will be printed today and we need help spreading them around the community in order to get lots of new faces to the event. We will need volunteers to hang posters around Lyndon, Burke and St. J, please let Nelia or Nancy know if you can help. We will also be handing postcards in the carpool line for you to share with friends and family.

Transportation: We need a couple of large vehicles and volunteers to help bring donations and supplies from Riverside to the Wildflower. This will mostly happen Friday before 4:00 and Saturday morning. Please be in touch with Nancy Vincent to help.

Decorations: All you creative types, we'd love your help with adding a special flare to our venue and the way the items are displayed. This work will mostly happen on Saturday, beginning at 9:00 am, but some preparations may happen Friday afternoon and evening. Please contact Nancy Vincent to help.

Food: We could use one or two more volunteers in the kitchen helping with food preparation between 5:00-6:00. We also need a few more serving platters to help with getting food to hungry guests. Please email Donna Smolag to volunteer: dlkerr@myfairpoint.net.

Clean Up: We hope we can have 4-6 volunteers to help us clean up after the event, which shouldn't take more than an hour. We hope some of these volunteers can help transport supplies back to Riverside either that evening or later in the weekend.

AFTER SCHOOL FUN: A few Riverside teachers and families have expressed interest in getting together for some cross country skiing after school when the days get a little longer either at the Outing Club or any other conveniently located trails. This would be open to teachers, students, parents, family members, and friends. Email Roy at rstarling201@gmail.com.

AUDUBON CAMPS: National Audubon Society sponsors scholarships to their summer camps in Maine for ten to fourteen year olds. The camps last one or two weeks and are mostly focused on oceanography. Anyone interested in scholarships to these programs should get an application form from Joel and should be mailed directly to Audubon before March 1st. Please note that a teacher recommendation is part of the application and faculty appreciate not being rushed to complete them.

TESTIMONIALS: We are interested in having some parent testimonials about Riverside to include in our promotional materials and website. If you have a few well-articulated sentences to share, please pass them on to Nelia.

THE MUSIC MAN: All Riversiders will be participating in the performance of *The Music Man* at the LI auditorium on March 26 at 7:00 pm and 27 at 2:00 pm. All students will also help in some aspect of production planning during the third quarter electives, which begin in tomorrow, and culminating during Play Week, March 22-26.

This week students will be choosing the participate in one of the following production electives (note changes from the last MM): Set Construction with Roy, Props with Nancy, Publicity with Nelia, Costuming with Jean Metivier and Denise Abele (thank you!), and some students may work independently on choreography.

CALENDAR:

January 25 – Semester grades and narratives mailed home

January 29 – Skiing, pick up at the mountain at 3:30

February 5 -- Skiing, pick up at the mountain at 3:30

February 6 – 9th Annual Riverside School Auction, 5:30, The Wildflower Inn

February 12 -- Skiing, pick up at the mountain at 3:30

February 19 – Winter Carnival, early release

February 22-26 – Winter Vacation

LESSONS:

Grade 2/3

Language Arts:

SPELLING – Watch for new lists in the Boomerang Folder

MUGS – Combining sentences, using the “RIGHT” word

INTEGRATED UNIT – For the next several weeks we’ll be studying the Ocean and the life in it. We’ll be reading from Magic Tree House Research Guides, and an abundance of other resource materials. Research, note-taking, paragraph and report writing, crafts, etc. will all be part of our experiences.

WRITING – Daily journaling and writing workshop

HANDWRITING – Grade 2 will continue to practice letter formation. Grade 3 will be expected to do all writing activities in cursive for the remainder of the year.

Grade 2 Math: We’ll continue addition of numbers in the tens. We’ll review and practice some mental strategies to help us. We’ll practice adding a series of three, two-digit numbers. We’ll try out our first test for math this year.

Grade 3 Math: We’ll continue our study of multiplication and also look at basic division facts. We’ll start to understand what division really is.

Spanish: We are practicing numbers up through 30 and also learning months and seasons so that we can speak about the date and time of year.

Social Studies: We continue to learn about the early explorers of North America.

Grade 4/5

Medieval Times Integrated Unit: This week we will learn some basics about the Roman Catholic Church, Christianity and ways that the monasteries affected life in the Middle Ages. We will also learn a bit about St. Benedict and Charlemagne. The students will revise and edit their biographical sketches and hand in their final copy on Thursday. They should also have an illustration to go with their reports. They will also complete their castle projects and be ready to present them on Thursday. We will continue to read *The Door in the Wall* in class and have reading and writing assignments about it.

Word Study: We will continue to work with words with “shun” in them. There will be a few patterns to sort and practice with. The students should choose at the minimum two extra personal words that they want to master to add to this week’s spelling list. Fifth graders will have the above assignment and in addition some English words with the Latin stem **ject** “throw”. Some examples are: eject, interject, and project.

Grade 4 Math: We’ll work through some visual/manipulative strategies for multiplying multi-digit problems. We’ll spend some time using base ten blocks, sketching our problems using graph paper, and moving toward recording our work as a multiplication problem with regrouping.

Grade 5 Math: They will complete chapter 6 this week. They will review addition and subtraction of fractions and work on a project. Their test on this unit will be at the end of the week.

Science: The fourth and fifth graders have excitedly been working on making Riverside more environmentally friendly. They have brainstormed several areas to target and they will continue working on them this week.

Spanish: We are continuing work on the play students have developed with many animal characters.

Grade 6

General Note: many 6th graders are already falling behind on homework assignments, some 6th grade parents should look for emails to that effect this week.

Matter and Energy: They will begin exploring electromagnetism this week. They will learn about circuits and static electricity as well as voltage and current. There will be a lot of hands on demonstrations and activities.

Ancient History: We are starting our journey into the world of the Classical Greece. Students will be assigned a project this week that will involve a short report and an arts/crafts element. There will be a handout with instructions. There will also be a quiz on terms this Friday. Specifics can be found at

<http://sites.google.com/site/roysresources/>

English: The students will continue with their independent reading projects. Grammar work will focus on adverbs, prepositions, and the parts of a sentence. Vocabulary quiz tomorrow.

Math: The students are working through operations with integers, using two-colored counters to help develop a sense of why the rules work. Quiz Wednesday (Sec. 6.1-6.3).

Latin A: We are doing one chapter a week, and this week it is verbs. Homework from chapter 2 will be due on Wednesday and Thursday with a quiz on Friday. Specifics can be found at

<http://sites.google.com/site/roysresources/>

Grade 7

Math: Equation solving this week will include equations that involve fractions and decimals. These skills will be applied to problems about circumference of a circle. Quiz Thursday.

English: The students will begin an independent reading project this week; details will be distributed in class. For grammar, we'll continue to practice sentence completeness, and we'll study pronoun-antecedent agreement. Vocabulary quiz Wednesday.

American History: There will be a quiz on chapters 11 and 12 on Wednesday. We'll then begin to study the sectional differences that existed in this country in its early days.

Biology: They will review the endocrine and excretory systems early in the week. Midweek, they will take their test on these two units. Then they will begin learning about bones and muscles and locomotion.

Latin B: We will be learning personal pronouns, numbers, reviewing verb forms and talking about Roman clothing. Homework due Wednesday and a quiz on Friday. Specifics can be found at

<http://sites.google.com/site/roysresources/>

Spanish B: We will continue practicing our new vocabulary about clothing, colors and shopping as we learn about some verbs in Spanish, called "stem-changing verbs," whose stems change when they are conjugated.

Grade 8

Algebra: Projects are due Tuesday when there will also be a short quiz on the second half of chapter 5. The next chapter begins with solving inequalities.

English: The students will begin an independent reading project this week; details will be distributed in class. Grammar work will focus on coordination and subordination. Vocabulary quiz on Friday.

Earth Science: They will review glaciers and groundwater this week and take their test on them midweek. After that, they will begin their study of running water. They have a lab report on capillary water due at the end of this week.

World Issues: We will begin our study of African history by learning about the origin of man on the African continent.

Latin B: We will be learning personal pronouns, numbers, reviewing verb forms and talking about Roman clothing. Homework due Wednesday and a quiz on Friday. Specifics can be found at

<http://sites.google.com/site/roysresources/>

Latin C: The class is going to review participles and infinitives this week and discuss the idea of reflexive pronouns. Homework on Tuesday and a quiz on Friday. Specifics can be found at

<http://sites.google.com/site/roysresources/>

Spanish C: The class is learning reflexive verbs and talking about our daily routines. We will also continue to explore Cuba through its music culture and (hopefully) food.